

William C. Collins, Mayor

Council Members:

Terry Jenkins, Mayor Pro Tem

Walter Bailey

Aaron Brown

Kima Garten-Schmidt

Bob Jackson

William McIntosh



Clerk-Treasurer

Lisa L. Wallace

Town Attorney

G. Waring Parker

Town of Summerville

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 14, 2015

ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Bill Collins and Council members Walter Bailey, Aaron Brown, Kima Garten-Schmidt, Bob Jackson, Terry Jenkins and Bill McIntosh. Also present were Lisa Wallace, Director of Administrative Services & Clerk-Treasurer, and G.W. Parker, Town Attorney. Members of the press and the public were duly notified of the meeting and were also present4

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of Summerville Town Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2015. The meeting was opened with prayer by Mayor Collins, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION FROM SWEET TEA HALF MARATHON PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mayor Collins announced the first item on the agenda was a presentation of a check to the Public Safety Departments of the Town of Summerville. Kelly Hazel, Chairman of the Sweet Tea Half Marathon Planning Committee along with Councilwoman Kima Garten-Schmidt, and other committee members presented Chief Owens and Chief Waring with a \$25,000 check to benefit the Police and Fire Departments of the Town of Summerville.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Collins called for any comments from the public. Linda Haynes-Whetsell of 108 Atlantic Street thanked Chief Owens and the Summerville Police Department for the work they have done over the last few months. She then asked when the town will get ball fields on the other side of town. She also reported problems once again about the business near her house stating that there is a problem with dust, noise, exhaust fumes and garbage smells at 3:00 and 4:00 a.m. She referenced an article in House Calls magazine that discusses problems with sleep deprivation. Jeanie Thrower of 210 E. 3rd South Street stated that she has been following the hotel project with interest and has been waiting on a public hearing to express her opposition. She asked when council would have a public hearing and believes people would not be as upset about the project. She said it is sad to see people against one another and asked council to reach out to people instead of saying it's a done deal adding that she is concerned about the funding for the project. Joyce Delk of 208 Essex Drive says she does not have a problem with the boutique hotel, but she does have an issue with the location and the process. She is uncomfortable with the effects to the town treasury. She is also concerned about the hotel not being a separate structure from the condominiums and the potential fire safety issues. She also reported that she had to sit on the floor at the recent Board of Architectural Review and that the board refused to move to a larger room. She added that prior reports that all properties for the hotel had been purchased was not the case. Carolyn Gorman of Third and Magnolia Streets stated that she was told that public hearings were not necessary because there was a mention of the hotel in the vision plan. She asked council if it was their contention that anything in the vision plan does not require a public hearing. She also asked about the upcoming RFP for

Hutchinson Square and asked if there were going to be any public hearings. She added that the town needs to come clean with the project. Faye Croft, Trustee for James A. Croft Trust, who owns property at 213 W. Richardson Avenue stated that she had prepared this statement for the BAR meeting but was not allowed to present it. She is concerned about having a three story eyesore that close to her one story house that would block the sunlight and have visual access to her private area. She was also concerned about having bar room noise that close to her property. Ms. Croft was also concerned about the affect the project would have on her church which is the Lutheran Church located across from the project. She was also concerned about potential drainage issues. Melvin McClellan of 203 Gardenia Street stated that Ms. Whetsell has been complaining about the business near her residence for years and has compassion for her. He added that the ditches in Robynwyn are still not draining properly and he has been reporting this since June. William Harbeson agreed with Mr. McClellan stating that there are ditches and canals around town that need to be cleaned up. The ditch at his residence at 404 W. Richardson Avenue is filling up. He had to dig out a foot and a half to get his property to drain. He also asked if the town would have any money left for housing and other needs if the town is spending money on the hotel project. Jennifer Minus of 506 Woodward Blvd. stated that an apartment complex was built on Central Avenue with an additional entrance/exit into Corey Woods. Her child has had bicycles stolen and her car has been stolen since the apartment complex opened and she is concerned that the entrance provides easy access to their neighborhood. She stated that she has a petition that has been signed by the residents of Corey Woods who want that road closed. She added that they are willing to provide finances to put up a fence to cut off the road. Adrian Kwist, a Summerville resident for over 50 years, stated that there have been many changes over the years. He added that he is disappointed with the way the hotel project has been handled and asked for consideration for the impact on the neighborhood. He is opposed to the proposed location and the potential financial risk. He also asked that the Board of Architectural Review use common sense and move to the Council Chambers if the crowd becomes too large. There being no comments offered, the Mayor declared the public comments portion of the meeting closed remained

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brown, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2014 council meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garten-Schmidt, to approve the January 12, 2015 Finance Committee Report, the January 7, 2015 Planning and Development Committee Report and the January 7, 2015 Public Safety Committee Report as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

PETITIONS

On motion of Mr. McIntosh, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, Council accepted the petition and gave first reading of an ordinance to annex Dorchester County TMS# 136-00-00-134 which is approximately 34 acres located at 429 W. Butternut Road in Summerville. This property is owned by Annette K. Dopson and currently zoned R4, "Multifamily Residential" to be zoned PUD, "Planned Unit Development" upon annexation. The motion carried unanimously.

PENDING BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to have second and final reading of an ordinance to amend the Code of Laws of the Town of Summerville relating to business license rates. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to defer second and final reading of the ordinance to amend the Code of Laws of the Town of Summerville relating to noise until the next council meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brown, to introduce and have first reading of an ordinance to approve the PUD "Planned Unit Development" for TMS # 136-00-00-134. The motion carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS

There were no miscellaneous items to discuss.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garten-Schmidt, to enter into executive session at 8:18 p.m. to discuss legal matters related to pending litigation. Council returned to public session at 8:41 p.m. and announced that no action was taken. Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to authorize the Mayor to enter into a legal services contract with Clawson and Staubes, LLC to defend the town in the case of Faye P. Croft, et al v. Town of Summerville, et al (case No. 2014-CP-10-7739). The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:41p.m. on motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Jackson.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wallace, Director of Administrative Services
Clerk and Treasurer

APPROVED:

William C. Collins, Mayor